

The early history of Heian Jogakuin : The footsteps of Miss Eddy, the founder : A partial translation of a booklet published in celebration of the 130th anniversary of Heian Jogakuin

著者 (英)	Iku Kuroi
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Iku KUROI

The School Emblem

In 1894 (Meiji 27) the school emblem was adopted to symbolize the new school name, *Heianjogakuin*. This emblem has been used for about 110 years since then.

It represents, firstly, the design of the Chinese character “*hei*,” meaning peace in English, of “*Heian*.” Secondly and importantly, it also represents the Christian spirit, which is the foundation of the school, symbolizing the spirit of faith, hope, and charity in the design of three swords. These words are taken from the passage, “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three ; but the greatest of these is charity.” (the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians Chap. 13, Paragraph 13) This emblem was chosen with the hope that the students in our school would always regard this as our ideal and attain the spirit in daily practice.

The Founder

Who is Miss Eddy, the first headmistress?

■The environment in which she was brought up.

Mr. Norman Eddy, the father of Miss Ellen G. Eddy, the founder of this school, was born in Cayuga County, New York, on December 10, 1811. His ancestors' names could be found in the records of 1630 in the New England areas. His father achieved success as an early pioneer farmer in New York. His mother was also from an early pioneer family. Young Norman studied in a local school and then entered Cazenovia Seminary at the age of 16. His mother wanted him to study for ministry, but he wanted to be a military man and tried to get into West Point, the United States Military Academy. He failed, so he became a student in the office of Mr. William H. Seward to study law, who was the Secretary of State under President Lincoln. His mother, however, was opposed to his wish to be a lawyer. So he studied medicine instead under Dr. James S. Hahn who was in practice in Canoga, New York. In 1833 he entered Jefferson College in Philadelphia, and studied under well-experienced doctors and graduated in 1835. In the same year he got married with Miss. Anna M. Melchior, a resident of New York. After working as a doctor for four years, he decided to move to the West and lived in Mishawaka, Indiana, in 1840. Seven years later, in 1847, he moved to South Bend and opened a medical practice with Dr. Lewis Humphreys. He couldn't give up his dream of becoming a lawyer and so resumed his legal study and passed the bar. Later he opened his office in Mishawaka, advocating democratic principles, but did not prove a financial success. During the Mexican War he organized a company of cavalry, which was not accepted by the government. He tried to find his way in the legal profession. Three years later he was elected as State

Senator. In 1855, he was appointed as Attorney General for Minnesota Territory by President Pierce. When the Civil War broke out, his patriotism aroused and he recruited soldiers for the 48th Indiana Volunteers, fought bravely as colonel of the Union Army, and was injured seriously in the Battle of Iuka. More than 2,000 soldiers were sent from South Bend and many of them did not return to their hometown. He, however, survived and resumed his legal practice in town. In 1865 he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue by President Johnson. In 1870 he became the Secretary of State of Indiana. His noble character left a deep impression on many people. He was loved by the citizens so much that one of the main streets of South Bend was named “Eddy Street.” In January 1872, at the age of 61, he died suddenly as a result of a deterioration of his condition.

Anna M. Melchior, the mother of Miss Eddy, was born in New York on August 27, 1814, and got married to Norman Eddy in 1835. In 1838 she gave birth to a boy, Owen, and to a girl, Ellen, at the age of 27, on December 27, 1841. After that she had four more girls and died at the age of 77, on February 3, 1891. According to Miss Eddy’s memoir, Anna was interested in everything around her and loved particularly the beauty of nature. She enjoyed conversations with people, and was a good listener as well as a good speaker. Even when people brought up a boring topic, she tried to see good in them and showed keen interest in their discussions.

In 1855 Saint Mary’s Academy was opened in South Bend, Indiana. Miss Eddy entered this academy in the same year. In 1860 she graduated as a member of the first graduating class, receiving awards in 13 subjects. The records of the alumni confirm that she received medals. The name of Saint Mary’s Academy was changed to Saint Mary’s College, which is one of the best private women’s colleges in the USA. Three out of twelve Congresswomen are alumnae of this college.

■The circumstances of Miss Eddy’s visiting Japan

In 1853 (Kaei 6) Commodore Perry arrived at Uraga. Foreign countries such as the United States or Russia were urging Japan to open its doors and to ratify commercial treaties. Japan was facing a turbulent age, while opinions were divided on the restoration of imperial power and anti-western sentiments and the opening of Japan to the West. Eventually, Japan opened its major ports and liberalized its trade with foreign countries. Finally, the Tokugawa government terminated its 250-year seclusionism and returned the power to the Emperor. The new Meiji government was established and Japan started to build a new state. When Nagasaki port was opened, missionaries of The American Protestant Episcopal Church, Rev. John Liggins and Rev. Canning Moore Williams, came to Nagasaki from Shanghai, China, to be chaplains for American and English merchants, and foreign sailors. They believed that someday they would be able to propagate Christianity freely, and were preparing for that day. In 1868 (Meiji 1) Bishop Williams was appointed missionary bishop by the Mission Board of the American Episcopal Church. In 1869 (Meiji 2) he moved his missionary base from Nagasaki to the Kawaguchi Settlement in Osaka. He held services in English for foreigners and opened an English school as well. In 1873 (Meiji 7) when the prohibition on Christianity was removed, he started services both in English and Japanese in the school building, and later his school turned to St. Timothy’s School. It was taken over by missionaries such as Rev. Morris, Rev. Quinby, and Rev. Miller. This is the first school established by The Anglican Church in Japan. Even after Bishop Williams became missionary bishop of Edo (bishop of Japan) and was sent to Tokyo, he continued promoting Christianity, in both Tokyo and Osaka, with medicine and education as the main missionary work.

At that time the status of women was low, and they were regarded unworthy for education or missionary. Missionaries thought it was their mission to lead Japanese women to the truth, and asked their headquarters in the USA to send “a female worker” to Japan. In November 1874 (Meiji 7), at the request of the Mission Board of the American Episcopal Church, Miss Eddy arrived at Osaka via Yokohama. She was recommended by Rev. William Richmond of her mother church. The recommendation said that she was fully qualified as a missionary, since she was eager to do her best and had a will to exercise her duty. It also said that she was talented as a teacher, with teaching experience in public schools, a talent in learning foreign languages, and knowledge of music. Though she suffered from seasickness during her trip on the transpacific line vessel, when she arrived, she was glad that her new life had begun.

■The atmosphere of “Miss Eddy’s School”

Miss Eddy began studying Japanese. In January 1875 (Meiji 8), she started a girls’ school, taking over some students who Mrs. Quinby or Mrs. Miller were teaching at St. Timothy’s. In the same year, the school building was completed and missionaries friendly called it “Miss Eddy’s School.” She taught girls from 6 to 15 years old, many of whom were boarding students. In Sunday Schools she taught over ten boys and girls as well. In 1877 (Meiji 10) there were 33 students. When a student dropped out of school, she tried to talk to his or her parents. She devoted herself in education and even wrote letters to the USA to get scholarships for her students. She taught English and Bible, and held services on Sundays. Her school started with 12 students and it changed the location within Kawaguchi Settlement three times. In 1880 (Meiji 13) the number of the students increased to as many as 50. It was called “The light in the Darkness School” then. In that year four students confessed to Christ and were baptized. As Miss Eddy’s Japanese improved, she started visiting the students’ homes. She was warmly welcomed by their parents. She watched the way things were in the houses and towns. She was interested in and curious about people’s lives. She had enough sense of humor or was relaxed enough to see herself objectively or wittily. Kawaguchi Settlement in Osaka was a small area and segregated where there were not many foreigners and especially not many female foreigners. Even in these surroundings, at the beginning, she often went out. She took a rickshaw and visited a female missionary who lived in the local area. She had a refreshing and happy time visiting her students’ families, associating with Japanese women in the neighborhood and attending the Christmas dinner hosted by other missionary’s families. However, according to a letter of Miss Bell T. Michie the later second headmistress, who came to Japan in 1881 (Meiji 14), Miss Eddy was exhausted. She was busy with everyday study, playing music for services, and taking care of the boarding students and day students. We could see that she was facing mental and physical fatigue and loneliness. In the 19th century the American churches had strong power that bound families and friends. Many women regarded the churches as the center of their lives. Away from home, she was spaced apart from the support of her mother church that knew her needs well. We could imagine this made her loneliness deeper. The top missionaries, who knew how hard she was working, praised her distinguished services based on her patience and self-sacrifice. They asked their churches in the USA to send her an assistant teacher, but it was never granted. In the autumn of 1880 Miss Eddy asked for a successor so that she could go home.

■Miss Eddy's going home and after that

On June 15, 1881 (Meiji 14), while many girls wept bitterly over her parting, she left Kobe port for home. She used up her seven years in educating girls in foreign soil with love and devotion. She tried to convey God's love and Jesus' love especially to the children who did not know God. In her home country her sick mother was waiting for her to come home. On July 21 she arrived from San Francisco to South Bend and wrote the last letter to the headquarters in New York, saying "I have done what I could." These words show her character well. The Register of South Bend reported her home coming, saying "Miss Ellen G. Eddy, who has been connected with mission work in Japan for the past seven years, returned to her home in this city on Thursday evening, having given up her work there. Her station in Japan was in Osaka, and her work has been so effective that as recently mentioned in The Register her resignation was accepted with the utmost reluctance. She is completely tired out, however, and feels that she must have the rest which home alone can give her."

In the annual report of 1891 (Meiji 24), Bishop Williams appreciated her unselfish devotion and work, and he thanked her for giving herself up to education in school without sparing time or money. Miss Eddy attended a few alumni reunions after graduating from St. Mary's Academy and even after coming back from Japan. She gave a lecture on her seven years in Japan in Christ Church, Detroit, on June 10, 1918 (Taisho 7). Unfortunately we were not successful in obtaining a manuscript of the lecture.

On February 22, 1926 (Taisho 15) Miss Eddy passed away from heart failure in the residence of her niece, Mrs. Harold E. Herr, at the age of 85. Her portrait has not been discovered, so her appearance is still veiled in mystery.

■The letter of appreciation given to Miss Eddy

At the end of March, 2004 (Heisei 16), the framed letter of appreciation given to Miss Eddy was found in the glass case in the former religion center. The size was 57 by 43 centimeters. No one had noticed until then, because it was in the corner of the case and written in ornamental style. It was given by the Association for Japan-United States Amity & Trade Centennial. In 1858 (Ansei 5) the Japan-United States Treaty of Amity and Commerce was signed on the US ship anchoring out at the Edo Koshiba. Two years later, in 1860 (Mannen 1) the ratifications were exchanged and the treaty became effective. 1960 was the 100th anniversary of this treaty. Praising her achievements, the Association gave the letter and memento to her. The letter has a date of November 10, 1960 and was signed by the honorable chairman, Shigeru Yoshida, who had long served as a prime minister after the war, and also by the chairman Taizo Ishizaka, who was an outstanding figure of the business world. We searched for the related records of this, retroactively to 1960, but have been unsuccessful. This letter should have been delivered to Miss Eddy, but we put this up in the chairperson's office, assuming this was given to the honor of the school she founded.

平安女学院創立初期の歴史

— 創立者ミスエディの歩み — 翻訳（平安女学院創立 130 周年記念誌）

黒井 いく

平安女学院は 2005 年 1 月、創立 130 年に際しその歴史を振り返り記念誌を発行した。学院の卒業生、教職員がその長い歴史に誇りを感じ、その伝統を守っていくという使命感を新たにすることは想像に難くない。

外国の人々に学院の歴史や建学の精神を紹介するため、英文への翻訳をおこなった。特に創立者ミスエディの生まれ育った環境、母国アメリカの家族、来日の経緯などを取り上げた。校章が制定された由来や、学院創立当初の生徒や授業の様子などにかかわる部分も含まれている。

この翻訳を通じ、グローバルなレベルで平安女学院への理解が深まれば幸いである。